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Ohio State University
Journalism Series

OHIO JOURNALISM HALL OF FAME

Proceedings of the Fifth Annual Dinner-Meeting of Judges, Newspapermen, and Others to Honor the Journalists Elected

Faculty Club Rooms
October 28, 1932, 6:30 P. M.

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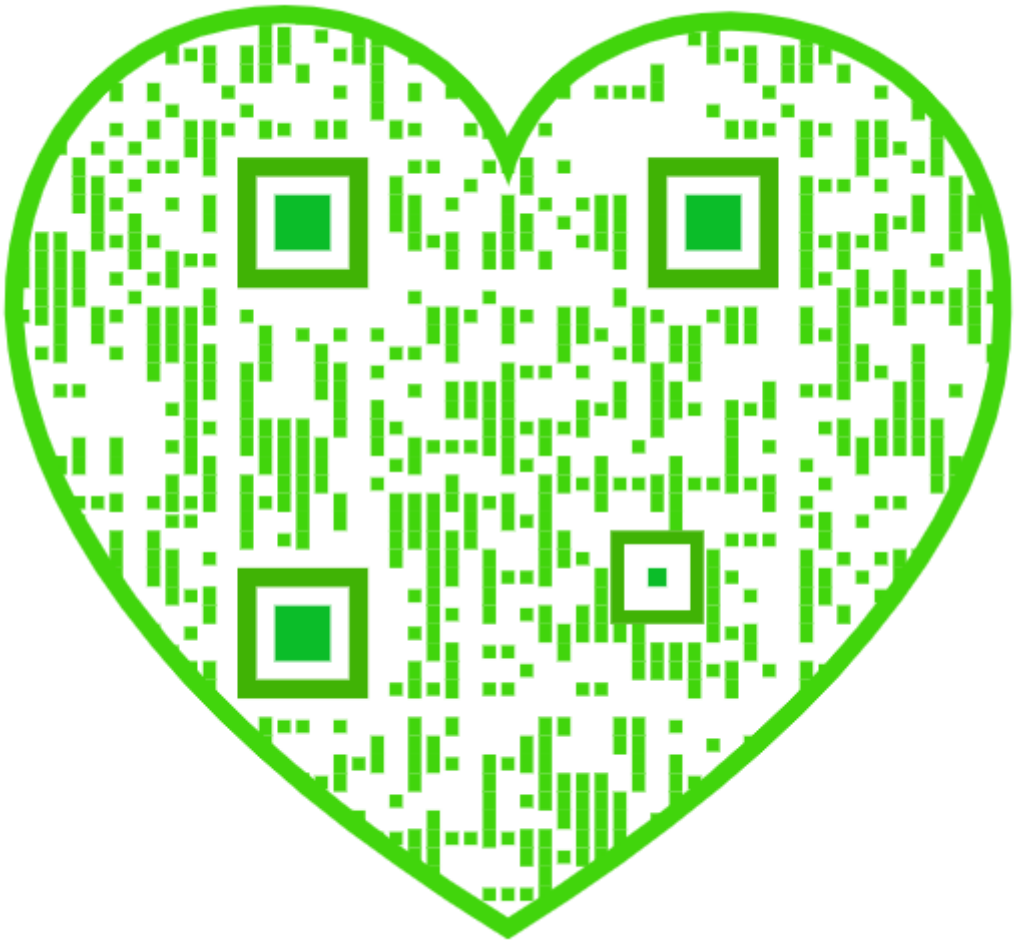
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY PRESS
COLUMBUS MCMXXXII



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COMMITTEE OF JUDGES

(1932 Election)

H. W. Amos, *The Jeffersonian*, Cambridge.
W. B. Baldwin, *The Gazette*, Medina.
D. C. Bailey, *The Banner*, West Liberty.
Louis H. Brush, *The News*, Salem.
Harry F. Busey, Scripps-Howard League, Columbus.
Granville Barrere, *The News-Herald*, Hillsboro.
Karlh Bull, *The Herald*, Cedarville.
Clarence J. Brown, Secretary of State, Columbus.
C. R. Callaghan, *The Gazette*, Bellevue.
S. A. Canary, *The Sentinel-Tribune*, Bowling Green.
Roscoe Carle, *The Times*, Fostoria.
W. H. Cathcart, Director Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland.
J. A. Chew, *The Gazette*, Xenia.
W. R. Conaway, *The Independent*, Cardington.
C. R. Corbin, *The Blade*, Toledo.
James M. Cox, *The News*, Dayton.
E. C. Dix, Sr., *The Record*, Wooster.
William A. Duff, Ashland.
F. A. Douglas, *The Vindicator*, Youngstown.
Edward A. Evans, *The Citizen*, Columbus.
J. A. Ey, Western Newspaper Union, Columbus.
Mrs. Ruth Neeley France, *The Post*, Cincinnati.
George H. Frank, *The Citizen*, Amherst.
C. C. Fowler, *The Dispatch*, Canfield.
J. H. Galbraith, *The Dispatch*, Columbus.
C. B. Galbreath, Ohio Historical Society, Ohio State University.
W. J. Galvin, *The News-Journal*, Wilmington.
O. P. Gayman, *The Times*, Canal Winchester.
Lester Getzloe, School of Journalism, Ohio State University.
H. E. Griffith, *The Morrow Co. Sentinel*, Mt. Gilead.
Oliver Hartley, 937 Dennison Ave., Columbus.
J. K. Hunter, *The News-Advertiser*, Chillicothe.
Webster P. Huntington, Mt. Sterling, Ky.
W. C. Howells, *Cleveland Plain Dealer* Bureau, Columbus.
R. B. Howard, *The Madison Press*, London.
A. E. Huls, *The Republican*, Logan.
Arthur C. Johnson, *The Dispatch*, Columbus.
J. W. Johnson, Circleville.
C. W. Kinney, *The News-Tribune*, Oberlin

J. S. Knight, *The Beacon Journal*, Akron.
Wilson A. Korns, *The Reporter*, Dover.
John Kaiser, Marietta.
G. J. Kochenderfer, *The News*, Mansfield.
E. C. Lampson, *The Gazette*, Jefferson.
W. O. Littick, *The Times-Recorder*, Zanesville.
Norval Neil Luxon, School of Journalism, Ohio State University.
A. E. McKee, *The Ohio State Journal*, Columbus.
Harry B. McConnell, *The Republican*, Cadiz.
Frank G. McCracken, *The Examiner*, Bellefontaine.
Miss Lida Rose McCabe, 37 Madison Ave., New York.
Frank McKinney, *The Times*, Marietta.
H. R. Menkert, *Cincinnati Enquirer* Bureau, Columbus
E. H. Mack, *The Register*, Sandusky.
Joseph S. Myers, School of Journalism, Ohio State University.
Harry Pence, *The Enquirer*, Cincinnati.
Marlen E. Pew, *The Editor and Publisher*, Times Bldg., New York.
Mrs. Penelope Perrill, *The News*, Dayton.
A. P. Sandles, State Civil Service Commission, Columbus.
Don C. Seitz, 19 E. 47th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.
W. G. Sibley, Gallipolis.
H. G. Simpson, Ohio Historical Society, Ohio State University.
Paul C. Siddall, *The Review*, Alliance.
R. C. Snyder, *The News-Journal*, Sandusky.
Charles H. Spencer, *The Advocate*, Newark.
C. B. Unger, *The Register-Herald*, Eaton.
George H. Van Fleet, Marion.
William G. Vorpe, *The Plain Dealer*, Cleveland.
Fred S. Wallace, *The Tribune*, Coshocton.
Dr. Frank Warner, 177 Hubbard Ave., Columbus.
W. F. Wiley, *The Enquirer*, Cincinnati.
E. S. Wenis, *The Scioto Gazette*, Chillicothe.
J. N. Wolford, *The News*, Yellow Springs.

Edwin Cowles
(1825-1890)

Samuel Medary
(1801-1864)

Elected to the Hall of Fame, 1932

PROCEEDINGS AND TRIBUTES

THE fifth annual dinner to honor the men elected to the Ohio Journalism Hall of Fame was held in the rooms of the Faculty Club, Ohio State University, October 28, 1932.

The men elected and now to be honored were:

Samuel Medary, 1801-1864
Edwin Cowles, 1825-1890

Professor Joseph S. Myers, director of the School of Journalism, presided as Toastmaster, and there were seated with him at the head table the speakers of the evening: Medary W. Stark, Columbus attorney and great-grandson of Samuel Medary; Elbert H. Baker, chairman of the board, *Cleveland Plain Dealer* and former associate of Edwin Cowles; Lewis Cowles, son of Edwin Cowles; Secretary of State Clarence J. Brown; R. C. Snyder, president of the Associated Ohio Dailies; Granville Barrere, president of the Ohio Newspaper Association; J. Lewis Morrill, vice president, Ohio State University; Mrs. Stark and Mrs. Snyder.

Among the 125 others present were: Dean W. C. Weidler, College of Commerce and Administration, of which the School of Journalism is a part; Dr. George B. Cutten, president of Colgate University; officers of the Ohio Newspaper Association, the Select List of Ohio Dailies, and the Buckeye Press, judges in the election, professors of Ohio State University, newspaper men and women of Ohio, and Professor Herbert Wall and a quartet from the University department of music.

Greeting by Vice President Morrill

After the quartet had sung, the Toastmaster introduced Vice President J. Lewis Morrill, of Ohio State University, who spoke the welcome to the campus as follows:

One very agreeable function of a vice-president is to substitute for the President, during his absence, upon so interesting an occasion as this. But it is quite a job, in speaking for the University, to represent not only an absent President but also a whole army of absent-minded professors.

We welcome you most cordially to this campus. We are honored that you hold here this dinner and this distinguished program. This University must serve two purposes, must measure up to two responsibilities. It must fulfill effectively its function as a great institution of higher learning. But it must go beyond that function to render a significant public service outside the classroom and the laboratory.

Hence it is that we think of our real campus as the whole state of Ohio—and hence it is that we take the most genuine satisfaction and

happiness in the fact that the members of our School of Journalism faculty are able and eager to render the kind of public and professional service that finds expression in a meeting of this kind.

The work of the University teacher and that of the newspaperman, while very different, are yet alike in certain vital respects. Each deals largely in information—information necessary for life and living. We call such information knowledge; you call it news. Each is under an evident obligation to make some interpretation of this information so that it may be more useful, may serve some individual or social purpose. Each of us, the teacher and the newspaperman, has a definite responsibility to the public and to the public good. In a state university like this one, this responsibility and this obligation are self-evident from the very fact that we are publicly supported and publicly controlled. In the case of the newspaper, this obligation and responsibility are equally patent, from the fact that the freedom of the press, as an agency of social progress, is constitutionally and legally guaranteed.

Moreover, there would be otherwise no reason for such a meeting as this, called explicitly to do honor to newspapermen who have shown conspicuous fidelity to the highest ideals and ethics of journalism as an agency for public welfare.

There is singular appropriateness, therefore, in the partnership of the newspaper profession with the University in this occasion. Speaking for President Rightmire, I give you the greetings and good wishes of the University.

The Men We Honor

Professor Osman C. Hooper spoke briefly of changes in the program that had been made with a view to shortening it, and referred to the two men to be honored—Cowles, a vigorous Republican, and Medary, an equally vigorous Democrat, in some measure contemporaneous in Ohio politics. Two men more different in their political outlook and activity, he said, could hardly have been chosen. Cowles was one of the organizers of the Republican party in Ohio and one of its staunchest supporters, while Medary a little earlier stood in the forefront of Democratic editors in Ohio, singled out by Republican editors and orators for their most savage attack, and in his closing years, sought to prevent, or strove to end, the strife between the North and the South. The selection, seventy years later, of these two men of such different attitude is above all a tribute to their sincerity. They earnestly believed what they editorially preached; and by the workers of this more tolerant time, they are honored for their candor, their zeal, and their honesty. The fact of their election is above all evidence of the fact that a sincere and courageous editor, whether he be right or wrong, is an object of sincere admiration by

those who know the circumstances under which he wrote. He will be honored by those who come after him, while the man who fears to say what he honestly thinks will be forgotten.

The Press of Ohio

Honorable Clarence J. Brown, Secretary of State, himself an active newspaperman, spoke for the press of Ohio, its general function of enlightenment of the people, and the difficulties through which it has passed in recent months. It was, he said, a tribute to newspaper management that, while other professions had stagnated and businesses had collapsed, there was not in the story of the trying seasons the record of a single newspaper in Ohio that had gone to the wall. Economies had been practiced and some papers had drawn on their reserves, but all had survived and were looking forward to a brighter day.

Clarence J. Brown

One thing, he said, he would be glad to find more notably in the smaller newspapers of the State—the expression of opinion with regard to the issues of the day. Too many papers, he felt, were concerned only with being a record of events in their communities, whereas they might be most influential in directing the course of opinion in community and State affairs. Editors, he felt, were prone to ignore the great power they have in this regard—a power which might be made effective far beyond the confines of the community in which they operate. He cited the thoroughness with which the weekly newspaper is read, even by persons who had moved into the cities, the interest that former residents felt in the small news

items abouts persons they had known, and that they would also feel in editorial expression with regard to the issues of the day. Speaking from his own experience as the publisher of six newspapers in southern Ohio, Secretary Brown emphasized the thought, so often expressed by the instructors in the School of Journalism, that high and devoted service to the people of the community, both in news and opinion, is the surest path to success.

Medary W. Stark, on introduction by the Toastmaster, spoke as follows:

MEDARY W. STARK
Who paid tribute to Medary

SAMUEL MEDARY

Samuel Medary was born in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, on February 25, 1801, two years before Ohio, the home of his adoption, became a state. His ancestors, who were Quakers, came to America with William Penn and he was reared in the Quaker faith. His early education was obtained at the Norristown (Pa.) Academy, followed by study of the higher branches of learning and teaching school.

Upon coming to Ohio in 1825, he taught school in Clermont County, where he boarded with the Simpsons, whose daughter was the wife of Jesse R. Grant and the mother of Ulysses S. Grant. Medary was made county surveyor, then school trustee and finally was elected County Auditor. In 1828 he started his first newspaper venture by establishing with Thomas Morris, afterwards United States Senator, the *Ohio Sun* at Bethel, to support Andrew Jackson for the Presidency. That paper, now the *Clermont Sun*, is still published at Batavia.

In 1834 he was elected to represent Clermont in the Ohio House of Representatives and was sent to the Senate in 1835 and again in 1836. In 1837 he became Supervisor of Public Printing, a post which he held for the next ten years.

In 1835, Jacob Medary, a brother of Samuel, bought the *Ohio Monitor* which had been established in Columbus in 1816 by David Smith as the organ of the Democracy, and consolidated it with the *Hemisphere*. He

published the paper under the latter name until 1837, when Samuel Medary became the head of the firm and changed the name to the *Ohio Statesman*. Samuel Medary was editor for seventeen years, barring two brief periods following the sale of the paper, both of which were terminated by his resumption of ownership and editorship.

In 1857 he left Columbus to become Governor of the Territory of Minnesota upon appointment by President Buchanan. When that territory was admitted to the Union he became Territorial Governor of Kansas. This post he resigned when the country was on the verge of civil war and returned to Columbus where he founded the weekly newspaper, *The Crisis*, with the purpose of devoting his talents to aiding in settling the differences between the states without recourse to arms. He arrived in Columbus in the latter part of 1860. *The Crisis* first appeared January 31, 1861, and was continued until his death in November, 1864.

Samuel Medary appears to have been born for journalism. At the age of sixteen he began writing prose and verse for the *Norristown Herald* and continued this practice until he came to Ohio at the age of twenty-four. His early writings evidence certain characteristics of the man which were dominant during his entire life. Among them may be mentioned: a wide range of interests, a reliance on fundamental principles, a belief in education for the benefit of the individual and the state, a profound respect for American institutions and an abiding faith in the American people. It may not be amiss in this presence, to read an article on "Newspapers and Periodicals" written by him in 1826, just after coming to Ohio and two years before he became an editor:

"There is not a nation in the world that abounds with newspapers and periodicals equal to the United States. And the number, which is now immense, is rapidly increasing in every part of the Union. This speaks a strong language in favor of our free institutions. A nation becomes happy and virtuous in the same degree that knowledge and the sciences are disseminated:—they are the only sure basis on which to found the great system of republicanism. A man may be considered a scholar and a deep theologian, and yet, his mind may be contracted and his views illiberal. He has pored over his musty volumes in his closet, and studied mankind centuries ago, when nations were governed by ignorance, and Kings by superstition. He is unfit for present life; he lives among the ancients, or is entirely wrapped up in the prejudice of a party. The philosopher, the divine, and the man of science become useful in society, according as they possess general information of coexisting and passing events. They will discover that there is much to blame, and much to admire, in almost every community under heaven. Their views thereby become more liberal; their minds expand, and a just estimate is made of virtue and merit wherever it is found.

"The narrow-minded may ask, How are we to become informed of the circumstances of the yesterdays and todays? An answer is at hand: read

the newspapers, and you will not only be made acquainted with the less affairs of the world, but those also, that are of the most vital importance to nations and empires.

"Every individual should be acquainted, at least, with the affairs of our own nation. The immortal framers of our inestimable constitution have granted to each a right and interest in the administration of the general government. Each free citizen therefore holds an important station in society; at the polls he yields up his right, in a measure, to individuals whom he entrusts with the best interests of his country. Let us all then duly consider the responsibility resting on us. How all important is it that we should act conscientiously and with discretion. And so to act we must be informed, and to be informed we must read periodical journals. Still we are liable to err in our choice and, in the height of party feeling, to be led to unreasonable lengths, but not so far as to endanger our government, for we have the reform within our own hands, and the independent part of a community will always retain it. And so far they have in most cases proven the majority.

"Our Constitution is a beacon light which may ever direct us off the rocks and shoals of despotism. We should therefore estimate its real worth, and make ourselves perfectly acquainted with its leading features, thereby comparing and cautiously matching, the actions of our political characters and public servants, that we may act with the greater circumspection. For our NEWSPAPER EDITORS are every ready to inform us of the passing events, as far as the nature of their works and the public patronage extend.

RUSTICUS"

Bethel, Dec. 1826.

From the time of his arrival in Ohio in 1825, Medary appears to have been active in all important public affairs. His first newspaper was established to support Jackson for the Presidency and he thereafter was a staunch and aggressive advocate of Jackson and Jacksonian principles. When currency matters were acute in 1862 he advocated the principles enunciated by Jackson in 1832 in his message vetoing the United States Bank Bill, and reprinted that message in full.

His power in the political arena is indicated by an incident in the hard-fought campaign of 1840, described in Randall and Ryan's "History of Ohio" as follows:

"John W. Bear, of Zanesville, had sprung into fame as the 'Buckeye Blacksmith.' He had great native power of oratory, and his fluency of speech was accentuated by eccentricity of person and attire. At the great Harrison ratification meeting, which was held in the rain in Broad Street just west of High, Bear appeared clad in blacksmith clothes, with leathern apron and tongs, and his face begrimed as though he had just come from the forge. Recognized by some of the Whigs of Zanesville, he was called out for a speech. . . . One of the local subjects of Whig attack was Sam Medary and his paper, the *Ohio Statesman*. . . . As their chief opponent

by reason of the great influence of his newspaper and his pugnacious editorials, Medary was especially obnoxious to Ohio Whigs. Responding to this sentiment, and doubtless under the instruction of party leaders, the 'Buckeye Blacksmith' devoted a great deal of time with evident pleasure to flaying Sam Medary, which he did with torrents of abuse and invective. As he afterwards himself told it: 'I had prepared a boy with blacksmith's tongs and a basin of water, some soap and a towel. When it was my turn to speak, I stepped forward with leather apron on, sleeves rolled up and tongs in hand, ready for business, amid the shouts of the multitude. When order was restored, I said: Gentlemen of the convention, I have a very dirty job to do, so I have my tongs with me, as you see. Medary's paper was lying on the stand. I lifted it up with the tongs, and read a short paragraph from it, let it fall and wiped my feet on it. Then I called for soap and water, washed the tongs and sent them to their owner, as I said, without defiling them with such a dirty thing as Sam Medary's paper. This caused the wildest excitement I ever saw.' "

Medary vigorously advocated the claims of the United States in the Northwest boundary dispute with England and has been credited with originating the slogan. "Fifty-four, forty, or fight." This has been questioned by some because it has not been definitely substantiated and because they believe it is not in harmony with his known principle of settling disputes by peaceful methods. He was, nevertheless, active in support of the Polk administration in the Mexican war both as an editor and a citizen.

Medary was high in the confidence of President Jackson and the succeeding Democratic Presidents. As chairman of the Ohio delegation to the Democratic National Convention in Baltimore in 1844 he secured the nomination of James K. Polk for President by reading a letter from Andrew Jackson which recommended Polk for that office. In 1853 he declined the post of United States Minister to Chile and later declined nomination for Governor of Ohio. He was temporary chairman of the Democratic National Convention held in Cincinnati in 1856.

Professor Osman C. Hooper, in his able paper on Samuel Medary entitled "The Crisis and the Man," says of him:

"It is enough to say of him that through all the mutations of a turbulent political period, he remained a Jefferson-Jacksonian Democrat. He lived and wrote at a time when newspapers were, first of all, advocates of political causes. He fought with Jackson in the war on the United States Bank and on the South Carolina nullification movement. He championed Van Buren in 1840 and went unscathed through the Michigan boundary war with Governor Lucas. He commented on the doings of the Free Soilers, the Barnburners and the Hunkers. He saw the dissolution of the Whig party and the birth of the Republican, and in Ohio the building of the canals and railroads and the development of the public school system. If there was an issue during his career as editor on which he did not have an opinion and the courage to express it, there has been no discovery of it.

As an editor of strong convictions, he rendered an exciting and seasoning service."

Medary's sympathy for the unfortunate and oppressed is well attested by the records, as was his willingness to help them. At Bethel in 1826 he wrote an article for *The Spirit of the Times* entitled "Desperate Greece" in which he refers to the "most inhuman and savage butchery ever recorded in the pages of history . . . while two hundred millions of brothers, Christians, followers of Jesus Christ and the Cross, were standing idle spectators of this more than savage scene." and he asks, "Is there no land of patriots left to pour their blood on the plains of Marathon?" Though a Quaker and a man of peace he was not a pacifist. What he conceived to be right was to be fought for if need be.

When Louis Kossuth, the Hungarian patriot, visited Columbus in 1852, Medary was active in the elaborate preparations for his reception, was a member of the central committee of a state Hungarian Association, of which Governor Reuben Wood was president, and presided at a large public meeting where resolutions were passed rebuking Columbus City Councilmen for refusing to officially participate in the Kossuth reception.

He, with Samuel Galloway and General Worthington, addressed a public meeting where resolutions were passed denouncing Spanish butchery, when fifty American filibusters were executed after failing in an attempt to bring about a revolution in Cuba.

He and William Dennison addressed a public meeting to express sympathy for Thomas Meagher, an Irish revolutionist who had escaped after being exiled to Tasmania by the British government.

This sympathy for others extended to his private life. There were many whom he helped along the way. The traits of character most often mentioned by his family were his kindness, generosity, and sincerity, and his lack of personal animosity.

A notable contribution to Ohio's political history was Medary's part in the calling of the second Constitutional Convention. Randall and Ryan in their "History of Ohio" say that he was "the most ardent and effective advocate of the revision of the Constitution." They say further:

"He was for many years one of the most active Democratic leaders of the state, and was a man of brilliant attainments, wielding a facile and aggressive pen. Not only did he advocate the holding of a Constitutional Convention through the columns of his paper (the *Statesman*), but on May 6, 1849, he commenced the publication of *The New Constitution*, a weekly magazine, octavo size, devoted entirely to the cause. This publication contained, in addition to the views of the editor, numerous and extended reports of opinions of the press throughout the state, favorable to the holding of a convention. It can be said that probably no other agency exercised so great an influence in the canvass as did this magazine.

"Its arguments in favor of the convention were couched in strong and convincing terms, and it called to its aid some of the best political writers

in the state. Its claims for a new Constitution can be summarized as follows:

"1. That the first Constitution had been hastily and loosely drawn; that it had never been submitted to the people; that the state had outgrown the usefulness and limitations of that instrument.

"2. That the judiciary system of the state should be thoroughly revised to the end that justice might be done without vexatious delay.

"3. That the sessions of the General Assembly should be held biennially, instead of annually.

"4. That provision should be made requiring the General Assembly to refer every measure increasing the state debt to a vote of the people.

"5. That state officers, including judges, should be elected by the people.

"6. That corporations should be formed only under general laws."

In the election of 1849 the proposal for a Constitutional Convention was carried by a vote of nearly three to one. Commenting on Medary's part in this movement, Professor Osman C. Hooper says: "He was still marching under the banner that he raised in 1828 in the *Ohio Sun*, 'unawed by the influence of the rich, the great, or the noble, the people must be heard and their rights respected'."

Samuel Medary always had a deep interest in agriculture. His writings in the *Norristown Herald* as early as 1822 show not only his interest, but something of his mental processes at that early age. One article discusses the general belief in the influence of certain phases of the moon on agricultural operations and asks that those in possession of facts that tend to establish or refute the general belief, make them public so that the truth may be established. He was active in promoting the interests of agriculture and horticulture in Ohio and was one of Franklin County's delegates to a state agricultural convention in Columbus in June, 1845, and one of the three vice-chairmen of that convention which was presided over by former Governor Allen Trimble. Through the action of this convention the first State Board of Agriculture was appointed and $7,000 was appropriated by the General Assembly for use of state and county boards. Samuel Medary was a member and first Secretary of the State Board. The State Fair was brought about largely through the influence of Samuel Medary and Michael L. Sullivant.

He was very active in the construction of railroads, being one of the incorporators and directors of four roads—the Franklin and Ohio River Company, which was to build a road from Columbus south; the Columbus and Xenia; the Columbus and Lake Erie Company, which was authorized to build a road from Columbus via Newark and Zanesville to the Ohio River. Three of them were built and eventually became prosperous.

Medary is also credited with aiding S. F. B. Morse in his struggle to make a success of the electric telegraph.

When Medary returned to Columbus in 1860 to try to prevent the

civil war, and later to oppose it, he must have been under no illusions as to the magnitude of the task, but he did not waver on that account. What I conceive to be his spirit in that undertaking is expressed in these lines of Matthew Arnold:

Charge once more, then, and be dumb!
Let the victors, when they come,
When the forts of folly fall,
Find thy body by the wall!

His reasons for opposing the war between the states were set forth by him in *The Crisis* as follows:

1. Because it would not in any country based on public opinion accomplish the end desired.
2. Because it would entail a debt and bring misery on the people disproportioned to the benefits that could possibly accrue.
3. Because he opposed a division of the States, and feared that the war would accomplish dissolution, or result in perpetual war.

True to his principles, he unceasingly tried to bring his readers back to fundamentals. He published the Constitution of the United States, Washington's farewell address, various documents by the founders of the Republic, much from Andrew Jackson, the correspondence between Adams and Jefferson and many other documents that supported the doctrines in which he believed. His appeal was to the intellect, rarely to the emotions. He blamed the trouble largely on the Abolitionist element but contended that both the North and the South had made mistakes and that the quarrel was political, growing out of men's aspirations for place and their differences of opinion on great constitutional questions.

He was an ardent advocate of states rights. He held that the slavery question was one for each state to settle for itself and any outside interference was contrary to the Constitution and the rights of the people of each state. This view was expressed by him in his veto of a bill passed by the Kansas Territorial Legislature declaring slavery or involuntary servitude illegal, except as punishment for crime. He further maintained that, until territories became sovereign states, they could not exercise the rights of sovereignty.

In his opposition to the war he continually attacked the plunderers of the public treasury; praised the bravery of the Ohio troops in battle; denounced those who were sending them to danger and death; sympathized with the soldiers in their hardships and scathingly denounced the frauds and thefts that were depriving the soldiers of adequate food, clothing and comforts for the sick, which were being provided by public funds and private charity. It is a sad fact that there was ample justification for these attacks. We, whose memory of the World War is still fresh, can form some estimate of the courage of Samuel Medary in the heat of a conflict that was at the people's very doors for four long years, with terrifying casualties. Yet he maintained his personal popularity and his friendships without

in the least sacrificing his principles or opinions or tempering the fervor of his opposition to what he believed was wrong.

He sharply criticized the Ohio bankers for their inadequate subscriptions to a state loan of $3,000,000 and apparently favored the drafting of men for the war, saying, "It is twice as manly as setting the politicians to run down our young men at $2 a head and an office. We have but met the stern realities of war; it is at our very doors—and we would have it so."

Upon his death in November, 1864, the editors, publishers and printers of Columbus met in the City Hall and adopted resolutions recognizing him as "one of the ablest and best, as he was one of the oldest and most distinguished, editors of the state"; "one whose native talent, incorruptible integrity and steady adherence to what he conceived to be correct political principles, were most effective in bringing the Western press to its present high and noble position."

A monument to him in Greenlawn Cemetery, Columbus, bears this inscription:

> In commemoration of his public services, private virtues, distinguished ability and devotion to principle, this monument is erected by the Democracy of Ohio.

After quoting from letters written to Samuel Medary by Martin Van Buren, Edwin M. Stanton and President James Buchanan, Professor Osman C. Hooper, to whom the writer is heavily indebted for the material in this paper, says:

"And so the testimony ran, a paean of praise, before and after his death, except for the frequent retorts of his political enemies wounded by him in the long-continued fray. He was generally appraised as a man of strong convictions and the courage to express them even in the face of the most overwhelming opposition—a man of unquestioned integrity, of tremendous energy and of the highest purpose to do the right as God gave him to see the right,—a dependable friend and a dangerous enemy who would always, however, fight fair."

Toastmaster Myers then introduced Mr. Elbert H. Baker who said:

Edwin Cowles

Edwin Cowles, printer, publisher, editor, was, as many of us who were long associated with him know full well, a most loyal friend, an implacable foe. He was a man of strong convictions and unswerving integrity, and strove with all the might of his intense nature to force his opinions upon the minds of others, never waiting to get the drift of public opinion.

He was the son of Dr. Edwin Weed Cowles and Almira Mills Foote, and was born in Austinburgh, Ashtabula County, Ohio, September 19, 1825. He was descended from John Cowles, a native of England who

with his wife, Hannah, came to America in 1635, and a year later joined the pioneer band that the Rev. Thomas Hooker led from Cambridge to Connecticut. He settled in Farmington, Connecticut, before 1650, where in 1652 he helped to found the Rev. Samuel Hooker's church.

His line is traced through Samuel and wife Abagail Stanley; their son Capt. Isaac and wife, Elizabeth Smith; their son Ezekiel and his wife, Martha Hooker; their son, the Rev. Giles Hooker Cowles, who was one of the first Trustees of Western Reserve when it was first located at Hudson, O., and his wife, Sally White, a descendant of Peregrine White, the first white child born in Connecticut. And they were the grandparents of Edwin Cowles.

ELBERT H. BAKER
Who portrayed the career of Cowles

The Rev. Thomas Hooker, the first clergyman settled in Connecticut, was one of his ancestors, as were also Nathaniel Foote, the first settler of Wethersfield, Connecticut, and Capt. Thomas Willett, a settler at Plymouth in 1630, and first Mayor of New York City after its conquest.

Dr. Edwin Weed Cowles moved to Cleveland from Austinburgh when Edwin was seven years old, and became one of its leading physicians. The city, at this time located on the east side of the river only, had a population of about 2000. The son attended the public schools until at the age of 14 he was apprenticed to learn the printer's trade. He served most of his time with Josiah A. Harris, then editor of the *Cleveland Herald*, and later continued his education at Grand Rapids Institute. In 1843, at the age of 18 he engaged in the printing business with T. H. Smead under the firm name of Smead and Cowles. At this time Cleveland had gained a population of some 9000. This firm was dissolved in 1853. Mr. Cowles from the first visioned Cleveland as a big city, and gave of his undivided best to make it so.

Mr. Cowles' success in life was attained under extraordinary disadvantages. From his birth he was afflicted with a defect in hearing which caused so peculiar an impediment of speech that no parallel case was to be found on record. Until he was twenty-three years of age the peculiarity

of this impediment was not discovered. Then Professor Kennedy, a distinguished elocutionist, became interested in his case, and after a thorough examination, found that he never heard the hissing sound of the human voice, and consequently had never made that sound. Many of the consonants sounded alike to him. He never heard the notes of the seventh octave of a piano or organ, never heard the upper notes of a violin, the fife in martial music, never heard a bird sing, and always supposed the music of birds to be a poetical fiction. Under the professor's instruction he made marked progress and was permanently benefited.

In 1847 an anti-slavery Whig paper called the *True Democrat* moved to Cleveland and was, the following year, consolidated with the *Ohio American*, of which Edwin Cowles was part owner.

In 1850 Cleveland with a population of 17,034 had three newspapers —*Herald*, *Plain Dealer*, and *True Democrat*. The following year Joseph Medill came to Cleveland and founded the *Daily Forest City*, a Whig paper supporting General Scott, who was defeated, for the Presidency in 1852.

It was soon evident that there was no room for a fourth paper, and the *True Democrat* and the *Daily Forest City* became one under the name *Daily Forest City Democrat*, the new firm being Medill, Cowles & Co.

Medill and Vaughan were its editors and Edwin Cowles was business manager of both the newspaper and its job department. From the first he took a keen interest in the newspaper, and with an abiding faith in its future. He enjoyed but few advantages in his youth, acquiring his education through intelligent reading of books, and his daily contact with men in every walk of life.

For years Mr. Cowles made it his daily practice to walk from his office to his home late at night after the paper had gone to press, and because of his deafness his family often urged him to use an attendant, but without avail. For some years Mr. Cowles was an active member of the Volunteer Fire Department. On February 21, 1851, The Cleveland & Columbus Railway ran its first train. Up to this time travel had been by stage coach and canal.

In 1854 Mr. Cowles insisted that the name *Leader* be substituted for the more cumbersome title and carried his point, but it became increasingly evident that there were too many partners for a business of that size. Messrs. Medill and Vaughan sold their interests to Mr. Cowles in 1855, and with Alfred Cowles, a younger brother of Edwin, pooled their meager capital for the purchase of the *Chicago Tribune*, then still in its infancy. Joseph Medill became its editor, and Alfred Cowles its business manager.

Under the new setup Edwin Cowles became sole proprietor of the *Leader*, and in a city which then had a total population of some 30,000, and with several papers in the field, faced a gruelling task. Fortunately he developed at an early age a high type of physical and mental courage

and throughout his life he never failed to give vigorous expression to his very independent lines of thought.

Up to this time the Washington hand press had been standard equipment, but rotary presses were making their appearance.

The fugitive slave law of 1850 became very offensive to the people of the free states as time went on. It was during the winter of 1854-55 that the great political struggle between the free states of the North and the slave-owning states of the South became acute; and it was but natural that party strife should reach such heights as to break all bounds and that thoughtful men everywhere should be striving for a way out.

On July 6, 1854, a meeting, apparently spontaneous but in fact carefully worked out in advance, assembled at Jackson, Michigan. It was made up of Free Soilers and Whigs, and promptly adopted an anti-slavery platform, which included the name, Republican.

It was at this critical time, the winter of 1854-1855, that a group of very able men were asked to attend a meeting in the editorial rooms of the *Cleveland Leader*. Among those present were John C. Vaughan, Joseph Medill, Edwin Cowles, J. F. Keeler, Col. Richard C. Parsons, Judge Rufus P. Spaulding and others.

This momentous gathering with its long hours of strenuous debate laid the foundations of the Republican party, and a prompt call was issued for a convention, which met at Columbus July 13, 1854, and a second meeting was held in Pittsburgh on February 22, 1856. The Convention at Columbus was very fully attended and the proceedings were duly published in the *Ohio Statesman*, of which Samuel Medary was editor at that time. The movement spread from state to state like a prairie fire. This new Republican party grew out of an overwhelming opposition to slavery and a point-blank denial of its right to further expansion into new territory.

The gathering at Pittsburgh resulted in the consolidation of the Free Soil, Know Nothing, and Whig parties into one great party which held its first convention in Philadelphia, June 17, 1856. Fremont was nominated, but the obscure Lincoln received 100 votes for Vice President. So rapid was the onrush of this great movement that it nominated and elected Lincoln in 1860.

During all the period of this aggressive fight against slavery, Mr. Cowles was an active member of the "underground railway." Edwin Cowles survived the dire distress of the panic of 1857, giving painstaking and undivided attention to the needs and the development of the *Leader*, of which he remained business manager until 1860.

With the coming of the dark days of the Civil War he assumed the full editorship of his newspaper and rapidly became a national figure as one of the great editors of the country. His outstanding views on public questions and the boldness and vigor of his utterances together with his progressive views on state and local questions soon made the *Leader* one of the most powerful and helpful newspapers in the Middle West.

When the spectre of Secession first stalked abroad, Mr. Cowles insisted that the government must at any cost preserve the Union. He demanded that, if necessary, the army and navy be called out by the President in defense of the flag.

In 1861 he was appointed postmaster of Cleveland, and to this task he gave the same intelligence and energy that he gave to his newspaper. Many economies and improvements followed. Under his administration he devised and perfected the first system of mail delivery by carriers, which rapidly became universal in the larger cities.

The intense earnestness with which Mr. Cowles urged the promotion of the war and his intense desire to bring every friend of the North into active cooperation, caused him to urge the nomination and election to the governorship of an outstanding war Democrat, David Tod, of Youngstown. Tod was elected and became one of the great triumvirate of war governors, including John Albion Andrews, of Massachusetts, and Oliver Perry Morton, of Indiana.

With the defeat of the Union armies at Bull Run, Mr. Cowles wrote a powerful editorial in support of the Union and its armies, heading it, "Now Is the Time to Abolish Slavery." He argued that the South in a state of rebellion had forfeited all right to property and insisted that the Federal Government had the same right to cripple the South by this means as it had to capture and confiscate its real property or its assets in whatever form. This editorial roused a terrific storm throughout the North. The people were not yet ready to face the problem, but it is well worth noting that, within a year from the publication of this outstanding editorial, the President put out his preliminary statement on the emancipation, using the same arguments which Mr. Cowles had followed.

From the first Mr. Cowles was a firm and unyielding advocate of the abolition of slavery, and quite oblivious to the grave personal dangers involved. In 1863 Vallandigham, a "copperhead," had been brought forward by the Democrats for Governor. Mr. Cowles at once proposed the name of John Brough, a war Democrat, for Governor, and his nomination and election followed, overturning the great Democratic majority of the year before. That political victory came at a time when the North was in despair over the defeat of its armies at Gettysburg and Vicksburg.

From the first to the last Mr. Cowles vigorously supported President Lincoln in his conduct of the war and his efforts to bring the conflict to a successful and speedy conclusion.

In 1867 the *News* became the evening edition of the *Leader*. In 1870 Mr. Cowles' attention was called by several distressing accidents to the grave danger from the many railroad crossings in the Cuyahoga Valley. His alert mind quickly conceived the idea of a high-level bridge, spanning the valley from side to side and connecting the two hilltops. An editorial followed at once, showing the great advantages of the plan and insisting that the city proceed at once with its construction. In spite of the fierce

opposition of rival newspapers and many prominent citizens who were overwhelmed with the startling idea and its enormous cost, he fought the good fight, day by day, until victory was won and the viaduct became a fact. Its cost was over three millions of dollars, a huge sum indeed for that day.

Johnson's "History of Cuyahoga County" states that: "In 1876 Mr. Cowles was elected a delegate to the National Republican Convention at Cincinnati, which nominated Rutherford B. Hayes for President. He represented Ohio in the committee on platform, and was the author of the seventh plank favoring a constitutional amendment forbidding appropriations out of any public fund for the benefit of any institution under sectarian control. The object of this amendment was two-fold: first, to settle forever the question of dividing the school fund for the benefit of the Roman Catholic Church; second, to guard the future from any encroachment of that Church that might result from its extraordinary increase in numbers."

Mr. Cowles was one of Ohio's commissioners to the Centennial held in Philadelphia in 1876. There he saw in operation what was said to be the first perfecting press yet built, and he became so engrossed with its wonderful performance that he purchased and erected one in his plant the following year. When showing this press to a group of friends one day, he was asked, "How does it do such wonderful things?" and answered, "I guess it's the damned continuity of the thing."

In 1877 he was complimented by President Hayes by being appointed one of the honorary commissioners to the Paris Exposition.

The invention of a new method of electric smelting by his sons, Eugene H. and Alfred H. Cowles, resulted in the development of the aluminum, carborundum, calcium, carbide and acetylene industries, and the erection of a plant at Lockport, N. Y., in which their father took a deep interest and made important investments.

Mr. Cowles was married in 1849, to Miss Elizabeth C. Hutchinson, daughter of the Hon. Mosely Hutchinson, of Cayuga, N. Y. He had by this union six children, Myra F., who married Mr. Chas. W. Chase; Helen H., Eugene H., Alfred H., Lewis H., and Edwin. The youngest, Edwin, died in infancy.

During the earlier years of their married life Mr. and Mrs. Cowles lived on Prospect Street adjoining his father, Dr. Cowles. Later they lived for many years at the southwest corner of Superior and Erie Sts. (now E. 9th). Shortly before his death he built a spacious home on Prospect Street, but did not live to occupy it.

Mr. and Mrs. Cowles with members of their family were members of the Second Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Cowles' health began to fail two years or more before his death, and acting upon the advice of his personal physician, Dr. M. L. Brooks, he spent many months at health resorts in Europe and in this country.

For a time he seemed greatly benefited, and returned to his editorial duties. But the respite was not for long. He died peacefully on March 4, 1890, in his 65th year.

The *Leader* said in an editorial following his death:

"Mr. Cowles was to the readers of the *Leader* what Horace Greeley was to the readers of the *New York Tribune*—a pervading personality. The distinguished features of his individuality were a keen sense of justice, perfect candor, and innate kindness of heart."

Writing in the *Plain Dealer* after his retirement as editor and publisher, William W. Armstrong recalled stories of Cowles and the friendly personal relations between the two men. "Cowles was an opinionated man and I believe sincerely honest in all his views, which at times on some subjects bordered on eccentricity. He had a faculty of exasperating his political enemies through his newspaper, seldom acquired by anyone, and yet in personal conversation Cowles was never offensive or disagreeable to them."

Newspapers throughout the country commented freely upon the notable place he had won in his chosen profession, and upon his outstanding service to the cause of Emancipation and to the winning of the war between the States.

It is eminently proper that we meet tonight to honor the memory of Edwin Cowles. His was an intensely busy life given, without thought of self, to his family, his associates, his city, his State and his country. His deeds live after him.

Presentation of Portrait

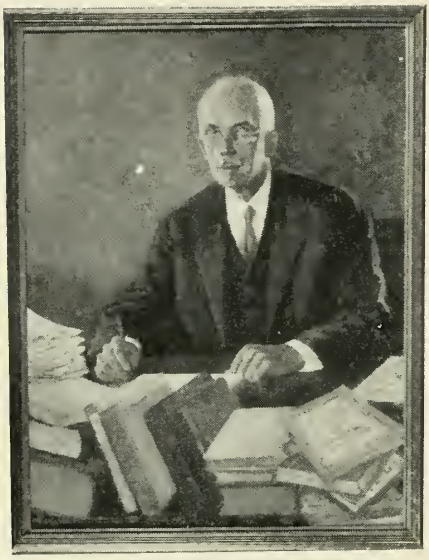
At the conclusion of Mr. Baker's address, the Toastmaster introduced Mr. A. E. McKee, editorial writer of the *Ohio State Journal*, who said:

Mr. Chairman, Newspaper Men and Women of Ohio:

For years the dean of Ohio newspaper men has been and is today our good frend, Professor Osman C. Hooper, who occupies a position of responsibility in the school of journalism at Ohio State University. Here he has found time to continue his work for and with Ohio newspapers. He founded and edits *The Ohio Newspaper*, a monthly publication welcomed in each office in the state. He had a leading part in founding the Ohio Journalism Hall of Fame and carrying on its work as we have seen illustrated this evening. From the beginning he understood the value to the living, when we gather to pay honor to pioneer workers in our profession, those hardy men whose work long years ago helped make smooth the paths we travel today. At all times he has been tireless in his work for Ohio newspapers. He is compiling Ohio newspaper history and we shall have shortly an accurate story of our interesting predecessors.

To him all this has been a labor of love, a pleasure after long and successful service in daily newspaper work. All his adult life has been spent

in and about newspapers. He has been identified with a number of papers in Columbus, his longest service being with the *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, where he occupied an editorial office and with which he still retains a close association. In his work there he won recognition and established a reputation for clear thinking, wise counsel and ripened judgment. Ohio State University invited him to leave his editorial desk and join the faculty of the School of Journalism. There, as in other positions, he magnified his calling and has helped build the school to its imposing position. No one can estimate the value of the work he is doing in helping train young men and women for newspaper work. Adequate educational preparation, understanding of problems they will face, appreciation of the spirit and familiarity with the practical side of the work, will prepare these young workers to meet and surmount the difficulties early years always bring, as theory must be fitted with practice. That work is building human lives and professional careers and to it he is giving the richness of his wisdom and the steadying influence of his abundant experience.



OSMAN C. HOOPER
Portrait by Harry J. Westerman

Ohio newspaper men always have been generous and appreciative. Knowing the good work Professor Hooper has been doing and appreciating his fine spirit in serving well all newspapers in the state, it was most natural that due recognition be given the man and his work. Some months ago the Osman C. Hooper Tribute Committee was proposed by Mr. Raymond B. Howard of the *Madison Press*. It was given prompt approval. Mr. Charles H. Spencer of the *Newark Advocate* was made president, Mr. Howard secretary and treasurer. Men and women from offices all over the state, gave their support. This evening the tribute is to be paid Mr. Hooper, a tribute that carries the friendly good wishes of every newspaper man and woman in the state. It is purely a newspaper tribute, in thought, form, production, execution and delivery, a testimonial to a friendship and a life that has been helpful, sweet and useful.

(Please keep your seats as the lights are switched and the brief part of the program is completed).

This tribute bears proof of the artistic skill of our own Harry J. Westerman, cartoonist of the *Ohio State Journal*, who painted it; it is in harmony with the pet slogan of our own Billy Ireland, cartoonist of the *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, that we should present our finest flowers to the living. This portrait, Professor Hooper, is presented by the newspaper men and women of Ohio, to the trustees of Ohio State University. For the present we understand it will have a place on the walls of the Faculty Club, but later will be taken to the official headquarters of the University and given permanent place with those of others whose labors in the development of the University have been outstanding. We deem this honor to you, Professor Hooper, as fully earned by the honor you have won for the University. To me has been given the very great honor of making the presentation, and that duty is done with joy. The portrait shows you at your desk, busy with the day's work, just as you have been for nearly half a century. The portrait shows the features of a genial gentleman, who has given cheer and courage to many, whose life has been filled with kindly deeds from boyhood; it is the picture of a newspaper knight in Ohio in modern times, on whose shield there never has been a stain. It is burnished now, as we know, burnished brightly with a thousand good deeds, service to the state and the public, loyal helpfulness to the newspaper, by one we delight to honor, whose life has been a benediction and an inspiration. We greet you and honor you, our loved fellow worker, Professor Osman C. Hooper, and we present the portrait to the University.

Accepted for the University

Mr. J. Lewis Morrill, vice president of Ohio State University, responding, said:

The University accepts this gift and hears this tribute to one of its most honored and most distinguished teachers with grateful appreciation. We shall be proud to place upon our walls this portrait.

Many of you will remember Emerson's historic remark that "an institution is the lengthened shadow of a man." He spoke of Harvard in the very early days. In an institution like ours, of great size and with a great variety of educational services, a good many shadows are commingled to point the total direction of distinction. Among these Professor Hooper's shadow is tall and gives a quiet, friendly shade.

I recognize the incongruity of this rather ghostly language to describe a man who has given more than half a century of active and energetic service to practical newspaper work and the larger concerns of journalism, and who sits with us here tonight just as busy and productive as ever.

But the words "quiet" and "friendly" and "scholarly" come to my mind first of all when I think of Professor Hooper. He has somehow managed to resist, as a fine metal resists tarnishing, the noisy confusion,

the skeptical superficiality, and the acidosis of cynicism which, as a former newspaper man, I sometimes think of as the "occupational diseases" of journalism and which do take their toll in so many cases that all of us know about. He has held steadfast to the things that are good and true in his profession.

A whole generation of journalism students at this University will rejoice to learn of this honor which has come to Professor Hooper—a generation eager for any opportunity to rise up and call him blessed and beloved. You are thinking of him tonight as a colleague—as one who has done more than any other member of the profession to preserve the history and traditions of Ohio journalism. These youngsters are remembering him as a teacher who was and is a living example of the best and finest in newspaper work.

And so I speak not only for the University in an official sense, but also for his faculty colleagues and a host of the alumni in a very human sense when I express to you our heartfelt thanks for this gift and for the recognition of notable achievement which the gift exemplifies.

To these words of presentation and acceptance, Professor Hooper responded with difficulty. All had come to him as a complete surprise through the kindly fabrications of the artist and the studied silence of the friends who were in the secret. For the kindly spirit revealed by the incident he was most grateful, though he was bound to feel that the honor thus conferred far surpassed his merits. To the journalism of Ohio he pledged a continuing devotion.

Those in Attendance

Those attending the dinner and registered with the secretary were: A. E. McKee and Walter J. Reck, *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus; W. R. Conaway, *Independent*, Cardington; H. E. Ulrey, *Enterprise*, Caledonia; James Rumble, *Sentinel*, Mt. Gilead; Mr. and Mrs. Karlh Bull, *Herald*, Cedarville; H. H. Sherer, *Republican*, Bowling Green; N. N. Luxon, Ohio State University, Columbus; Mr. and Mrs. James Gaskins, *News Record*, Sabina; Mark Warren, *Herald*, Ada; K. J. Herrmann, *Herald*, Circleville; R. D. Hastings, *Hilltop Record*, Columbus; J. W. Johnson, Circleville; C. C. Fowler, R. D. Fowler, *Dispatch*, Canfield; Earl W. Baird, *Journal*, Hamilton; F. C. Holdren, *Dispatch*, Beverly; Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Howard, *Madison Press*, London; Fred Graves, John W. Dickerson, *Democrat*, London; Mr. and Mrs. J. Holden, R. G. Holden, *Herald*, McComb; L. J. Gunckle, R. J. Stoner, *Policy*, Versailles; Harold Pearson, R. B. Conklin, *American Deaf Citizen*, Versailles; H. G. Simpson, Columbus; C. H. Spencer, John D. Spencer, *Advocate*, Newark; Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Wallace, Bruce Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. James Fallon, *Tribune*, Coshocton; Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Palmer, *Journal*, Jamestown; Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Hartley, *Democrat*, Pomeroy; A. S. Rudd, Pub-

lisher Syndicate, Chicago; Bert D. Strang, Columbus; Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Stark, Miss Virginia Stark, Columbus; G. H. Gordon, the *Week*, Columbus; R. D. Whipping, Eaton;. Dean W. C. Weidler, Ohio State University, Columbus; J. E. Tolbert, S. J. Pollock, Sebring; H. L. Edmonds, *Sun*, New Carlisle; H. B. McConnell, Milton Ronsheim, *Republican*, Cadiz; Warren C. Nelson, K. W. Elder, *Sentinel*, South Charleston; Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Snyder, *Reflector*, Norwalk; Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Gayman, *Times*, Canal Winchester; Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Palmer, *Enterprise*, Barnesville; Lyman B. Wade, R. McKinney, *Star-Republican*, Blanchester; Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hutchinson, *Western Star*, Lebanon; Mildred Ellis, *Patriot*, Lebanon; Mr. and Mrs. Granville Barrere, *News-Herald*, Hillsboro; Frank G. McCracken, *Examiner*, Bellefontaine; J. A. Ey, Western Newspaper Union, Columbus; Clarence J. Brown, *Star-Republican*, Blanchester; Dr. and Mrs. Frank Warner, Columbus; Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Knight, Ohio Newspaper Association, Columbus; A. E. Huls, *Republican*, Logan; Harold Schellenger, J. E. Pollard, Ohio State University, Columbus; V. E. McVicker, *Citizen*, Columbus; Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Griswold, *Ledger*, Columbiana; James G. May, *Enterprise*, New Concord; Miss Ann Fulton, *Dispatch*, Columbus; Mrs. Fulton, Columbus; Miss G. Hettinger, Ohio State University, Columbus; Ed Bronson, *Ohio State Journal*, Columbus; Dr. George B. Cutten, president Colgate University; Elbert H. Baker, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*; Lewis Cowles, Cleveland; Mrs. Inez C. Latimer, Troy; Mrs. Annie B. Dolle, Columbus; James Lewis Morrill, vice president, Ohio State University; Professor Aubrey I. Brown, Ohio State University.